



BSU
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

**COMMANDER FIGHTER WING ONE
NAVAL AIR STATION OCEANA
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23460**

1976

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5750

Ser: 134

03 MAR 1977

From: Commander Fighter Wing ONE
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: Command History; submission of

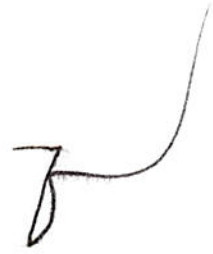
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Commander Fighter Wing ONE 1976 Command History

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.


J. S. DISHER

Copy to:
Director of Naval History



COMMANDER FIGHTER WING ONE 1976 COMMAND HISTORY

1. COMMAND ORGANIZATION.

a. Captain John S. DISHER relieved Captain Gerald L. RIENDEAU as Commander Fighter Wing ONE on 27 August 1976.

b. Missions and functions of Commander Fighter Wing ONE are as follows: Commander Fighter Wing ONE has overall responsibility for those squadrons and units assigned and for the continuing material readiness and type training of all fleet squadrons and units within his community. Although this basic responsibility extends throughout the employment cycle of the individual squadrons and units, direct management control is exercised by the Wing Commander only when these squadrons and units are shore based at the parent station.

c. The squadrons assigned Commander Fighter Wing ONE are as follows:

<u>Squadron</u>	<u>Commanding Officer</u>	<u>Airwing</u>
VF-14	CDR F. J. DOUGHERTY	1
VF-32	CDR A. H. FREDRICKSON	1
VF-31	CDR J. B. BEST	3
VF-103	CDR W. T. INDERLIED III	3
VF-41	CDR W. L. WEST	F-14 Transition
VF-84	CDR W. TOWNSEND	F-14 Transition
VF-33	CDR T. E. DAVIS	7
VF-102	CDR R. E. WYMAN	7
VF-142	CDR L. R. McFILLEN	6
VF-143	CDR R. W. SCHAFFER	6
VF-11	CDR R. R. STOOPS	17
VF-74	CDR R. E. TUCKER	8
VF-43	CDR P. N. MIDGARDEN	
VF-101	CDR J. T. McHUGH	
VF-101 DET KEY WEST	LCDR J. E. ALLEN	

Enclosure (1)

2. Summary of Operations

a. Training:

(1) Commander Fighter Wing ONE has continued the "COMPEX" program thus continually observing and grading training exercises of all squadrons in "Fighter Country." Competitive exercises are used to grade every phase of training that squadrons perform and offers a comparative evaluation of overall wing readiness.

(2) Squadron administrative procedures are monitored by Commander Fighter Wing ONE conducting "ADMAT" inspections every eighteen months. This insures that all squadron are complying with current directives and are operating in a safe and professional manner.

(3) Commander Fighter Wing ONE schedules and coordinates all live missile firing exercises required by the fighter squadrons when based at NAS Oceana. These missile exercises occur frequently and provide an important part of the squadron's training cycle. More than thirty missile exercises are conducted each year utilizing the Sparrow, Sidewinder, and Phoenix missiles.

(4) The Commander Fighter Wing ONE dissimilar adversary program, utilizing VF-43's A-4, T-38, and newly acquired F-5E aircraft as adversaries, has proven very successful. This program has been greatly enhanced by the newly acquired Air Combat Maneuvering Range (ACMR) which is expected to go fully operational by September 1977. This range allows aircrews to learn and benefit from each air-to-air engagement, by having an exact readout of the flight parameters/events as they occurred. The fully operational Air Combat Maneuvering Range should prove invaluable to "Fighter Country."

(5) The Conventional Weapons Technical Proficiency Inspection Program (CWTPI) has continued to successfully assess each fighter command's ability to perform technical operations and comply with current directives relating to assigned weapons and weapons systems. The inspection includes a certification program, ordnance safety procedures, weapons training program, records review, and release and weapons loading checks. The CWTPI has proved its worth in maintaining fighter squadron readiness.

(6) The Integrated Weapons System Review (IWSR) program has assisted greatly in the squadrons' turnaround cycle. The IWSR program has reinforced each commands' knowledge of missile systems, ECM, conventional weapons release and all electronic systems. The Fighter Wing ONE IWSR program has provided formal weapon systems training to flight crews and both formal and on-the-job training for nucleus of maintenance personnel. An IWSR is conducted for each squadron (both F-4 and F-14) once per year.

b. Safety:

(1) Eleven of the fifteen Atlantic Fleet Fighter Squadron completed

fiscal year 1976 free of major aircraft accidents. The commands recognized for their accident free operations are:

VF-14	VF-32	VF-43	VF-101
VF-74	VF-84	VF-102	VF-41
VF-103	VF-142	VF-143	

(2) In September 1976, VF-101 was selected as the United States Atlantic Fleet squadron to receive the Chief of Naval Operations Annual Aviation Safety Award.

(3) Upon ending fiscal year 1976, Fighter Squadron 74 completed two years of accident free operations. VF-74 was also recognized as the Navy's number one fighter squadron and received the coveted Admiral Joseph Clifton Award at the annual tailhook convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

c. Readiness:

(1) Implementation of the fleet fighter ACM Readiness Program has provided squadrons a rigorous 3 week schedule for obtaining a high level of readiness in their primary mission during their turnaround cycle. The various types of aircraft flown by VF-43 adversaries have enable these squadrons an outstanding opportunity to refamiliarize themselves with the dissimilar threat and to evaluate their proficiency in the use of current fighter tactics.

d. Simulators:

(1) Simulated flying has become more a way of life in "Fighter Country" than ever before, and it is assuredly a permanent facility for many years to come. The simulators for the F-14, F-4 and A-4 are in full operation and providing valuable hours of training for the Atlantic Fleet Squadrons.

e. F-14:

(1) As of the end of fiscal year 1976, NAS Oceana has 4 Tactical F-14 squadrons in full operation; VF-14, VF-32, VF-142 and VF-143 while VF-41 and VF-84 are completing their transition schedule and starting to receive the new F-14 "Tomcat" aircraft.

f. Air Combat Maneuvering Range:

(1) On October 20, 1976 the East Coast Air Combat Maneuvering Range began limited operations pending installation of three more sea based receiving towers scheduled for completion September 1977. The ACMR has greatly increased the value of all ACM Training by providing an actual record of each engagement. The ACMR is presently contributing to a higher degree of squadron readiness and will be invaluable once it is fully operational.

3. Special Topics:

a. "Fighter Country Fling"

The annual Fighter Country Fling was held May 28, 1976 with complete enthusiasm and success. The "Fling" continues to get bigger and better every year with COMFITWING ONE doing the overall coordination. LCDR (b) (6) VF-74, was selected as this year's "Fighter Pilot of the Year." LT (b) (6) VF-32, was honored as "NFO of the Year."

b. ANA Convention:

During September 1976, COMFITWING ONE helped coordinate the first Annual ANA Convention at NAS Oceana. The first convention of the Association of Naval Aviation will be long remembered as a gala event. We look forward to next year's convention.

4. Chronological Order of Events: Significant events affecting COMFITWING ONE and the units thereof from January 1976 until February 1977 are presented in chronological order as follows:

January 1976:

VF-41/84 start F-14 transition

VF-31/103 deploy aboard USS SARATOGA for Med Cruise

VF-14/32 return aboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY from Med Cruise

March 1976:

VF-84 releases last F-4N

April 1976:

COMFITWING ONE administered command inspection to VF-41, VF-74, VF-84 and VF-143

VF-41 releases last F-4N

VF-142/143 deploy aboard USS AMERICA for Med Cruise

May 1976:

VF-33/102 return aboard USS INDEPENDENCE from Med Cruise

Fighter Fling - Fighter Pilot of the Year - LCDR (b) (6)

Fighter NFO of the Year - LT (b) (6)

June 1976:

COMFITWING ONE administered command inspection to VF-33

July 1976:

ACMR installed at NAS Oceana

VF-74 and VMFA-333 deployed aboard USS NIMITZ for Med Cruise

1st ACMR Test Flight - LT (b) (6) VF-43

VF-31/103 return aboard USS SARATOGA from Med Cruise

August 1976:

COMFITWING ONE Change of Command - CAPT John S. DISHER relieved CAPT Gerald L. RIENDEAU

COMFITWING ONE administered command inspection to VF-11

September 1976:

Cruis VF-14/32 deploy aboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY for North Atlantic Cruise

ANA Convention at NAS Oceana

October 1976:

VF-74 Change of Command in TUNIS, North Africa - CDR F. E. TEMPLETON relieved by CDR R. E. TUCKER

ACMR begins limited operations

VF-142/143 return aboard USS AMERICA from Med Cruise

November 1976:

VF-14/32 return aboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY from North Atlantic Cruise

VF-142 Change of Command - CDR J. L. UNRUH relieved by CDR CDR L. R. McFILLLEN

VF-33/102 deployed aboard USS INDEPENDENCE

VF-84 Change of Command - CDR D. V. HANNA relieved by CDR W. TOWNSEND

December 1976:

CVW-17 Change of Command

COMFITWING ONE Staff Phase II EO/HMR Training

VF-142 and VC-2 receive Battle "E" Award presented by VADM GREER, USN, COMNAVAIRLANT

VF-43 received first F-5E

VF-33/102 return aboard USS INDEPENDENCE

VF-41 receives 1st F-14

COMFITWING ONE administered command inspection to VF-32

January 1977:

COMFITWING ONE administered ADMAT to VF-14

VF-103 Change of Command - CDR P. H. LINEBERGER relieved by CDR W. T. INDERLIED, III

VF-41 Change of Command - CDR M. M. SCOTT relieved by CDR W. L. WEST

VF-14 Change of Command - CDR C. L. LAVINDER relieved by CDR F. J. DOUGHERTY

VF-101 receives CNO Safety Award presented by VADM GREER, USN, COMNAVAIRLANT

VF-11 Det to NAS Roosevelt Roads for 4 weeks

VF-14/32 deploy aboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY for Med Cruise

February 1977:

VF-31 Change of Command - CDR W. L. DWYER relieved by CDR J. B. BEST

VF-74 returns aboard USS NIMITZ from Med Cruise

COMFITWING ONE administered command inspection to VF-142